little animal (pointing out some speci-

TREASURY EXPERT'S WORK

tified and Redeemed.

The Delicate Tasks Which Fall to the Lot of Mrs. Brown - Money Destroyed by Fire Not Lost to the Owner-A Farmer's Experience.

The ways and means by which counterfeit and mutilated paper money is identified by the experts at the United it yet, but it looks somewhat discourag-States Treasury is, after all, a simple matter when once it is explained, although to the general public it presupposes an ability so far above the average of intelligence as to be something almost uncanny. Notes that have after unfolding it, displayed a black been charred to the last degree are sent powder, in which were a few, flat, black over the hand has ceased to jar one's into the Redemption Division to be flakes about the size of a little finger feelings, the keenness of the fancier asidentified and redeemed, and notes nail. This had been money, and this serts itself, the pattering of the little which have been chewed by dogs or torn into bits by insane people, or charred or molded into small flakes by fire, are also forwarded to the Treasury Department, each accompanied by average man would never know that velvet. an affidavit giving the original amount of the money and the circumstances attending its mutilation and recovery.

In one corner of the room in the Redemption Division of the Treasury building sits Mrs. A. E. Brown, the expert whose task it is to pick out from the money fragments turned over to her the marks of identification which will either verify the affidavit or not, as the case may be. Scattered about the desk are fragments of paper money placed on slips of brown paper in shape and contour like an ordinary envelope. These are all marked and labeled so that each can be credited to the owner of the fragments.

"The mutilated money comes from no one particular source," said Mrs. Brown, "except, perhaps, from the banks, where it has been taken by the individual owner as the first step toward getting it to the United States Treasury, which will redeem all notes identified as to their face value and number. The banks do not, of course, redeem these fragments and then look to us to reimburse them. It is only an act of accommodation which the banks extend to individuals. The rules of the Treasury require that three-fifths of the bills be sent for identification; less than that amount will either shut off redemption altogether or at least prevent the full amount being given back to the owner of the fragments.

"For example, supposing one-half of a \$5 bill is sent in for redemption, and supposing it is in such a good state of eservation that its identification as a \$. will, issued by the Government of the and \$2.50 sent to the owner. At first \$2.50 paid in its redemption. Now, it is obvious that if \$5 had been paid for the first half and later the same amount first and second halfs, the owner would either have been paid \$10 for his original \$5 bill, which is more than he is entitled to by \$5, or the Government the United States.

"If, however, three-fifths of the bill our hands to satisfy all demands for may come in later, but as soon as their identification with the three-fifths portion is established, they are thrown out as worthless.

"It is astonishing how many people put their money about stoves, ovens, and other places exposed to fire. Here is a roll of burned money which a woman placed in the oven for some reason unexplained. According to her affidavit, she says that, immediately after placing the money there, she left the house for a few moments, and when she returned she found that her daughter had built a fire in the stove and was preparing the dinner-or supper-I do not remember just now which."

The mass of charred money which Mrs. Brown held in her hand was as black as charcoal and seemed ready to fall apart by its own weight, like the spelling the poet's name we find "Shaklast remnants of burned paper often berd" or "Shaxberd," and these variants seen in the grate fire. She began separating the mass with the point of a plain as a pikestaff that in the unsettled paper cutter, and finally peeled off a fragment on which could distinctly be seen the impressions of the printing to the barber shop as Smith to the smith plate in the centre design. This was a And it is curious in this connection to \$10 note, as was shown by comparing find the King in "Hamlet" saying: the centre design of the charred fragment with a new bill which Mrs. Brown placed beside it,

"The figures giving the amount of the bill," Mrs. Brown said, "are obliterated, principally by the break in the charred fragment where it broke off from the rest of the bill, but the border and central design of this piece are apparent to the naked eye and are brought out_still more clearly by the magnifying glass. This is a true United and Bardolph, according to Falstaff, was States Treasury bill and will be redeemed. This is, of course, not threefifths of the original bill, but it contains the centre design and is enough to identify the bill exactly. When we have a mass of mutilated money stuck together as this mass is, it is necessary to use the utmost nicety in separating separate bills there were in the roll or mass of money before it was charred, as this is. Frequently it is possible to pos-Itively identify some of the bills but not all, and unless great care is exercised It is possible to do an injustice to the owner. The Treasury always stands ready to redeem any money which it can identify by the methods which have proved most satisfactory."

Reaching down and opening one of the drawers of her desk, Mrs. Brown drew out a tin tobacco box containing what looked like a mass or slab of peat or earth pressed compactly together. It turned out, on investigation, to be a roll of money, amounting originally to about \$200, which a farmer had plowed under the ground while turn-

area in vain, gave up the quest. Each THE LATEST FAD IN PETS field with the plow in each succeeding season be kept his eye on anything that How Mutilated Currency Is Iden- would be likely to look like the lost A Growing Demand for Mice of money. Finally, after the bills had lain under ground for six years, his search was rewarded and last spring his plowshare unearthed the blackened mass which lay in the tobacco box.

"There is no doubt," said Mrs. Brown, 'that this is money, as the fibres attest, but it is so rotten and friable that I do not know whether it is possible to identify it or not. I have not examined

While Mrs. Brown was still talking, from which she took a roll of paper, tied around with a pink string, and, this was the dust of money, and if he did, he would give it to the first person pets, in that a mouse of three years old nal or present value may have been or which mar the failing years of an old still may be.

if it is possible to identify it as an issue of the home. of the Treasury and we can determine

THE OVER-TRAINED NURSE. Ofttimes Her Mechanical Deport.

ment Irritates Patients.

Where the patient is a man, and not critically ill, the typical trained young woman is often a source of irritation. Few men can endure the restraint which nited States, can be told at a glance, her presence imposes. She shows every the owner of that fragment will receive | mark of having been cast in a mold, and from the Treasury only \$2.50, and not of being entirely artificial. Her fixed the full face value of the original bill. and restrained smile indicates only a sim-The fragment will be registered, with ulated amiability. The precision with its essential marks of identification, which her hair is brushed back under her impossibly neat cap; her noiseless and ghostlike glide; her businesslike and un- to them in tones which must sound glance this would seem to be unjust feeling administration of drops and powto the owner, but on further considera- ders with inhuman regularity and withtion it will be evident that at any time out the possibility of a mistake; her practhe other half of that bill may come in ticed look of celestial goodness and superto us, perhaps from the same person, human wisdom-all these are too unlike or possibly from some one else, and what is looked for from the spontaneous ing angel kind. To the average man who mouse is gregarious, rarely thriving is not too sick to be impressed by his sur- alone. In fact, to get well-kept speciroundings this figure of mechanical per- mens it is essentially necessary that the for the second half, although years may fection is more disturbing than would be intervene between the visitation of the a tipsy coal-heaver in the sick chamber. So perfect a creature spolls all a man's sickness. He can make no appeal to her sympathy-cannot plead for delay when the nauseous dose is due, or conduct him- ed. would have been out just \$5, which the compensations of illness to a man. self like a spoiled child, which is one of would be an injustice to the people of Perhaps he may be disappointed, too. When a trained nurse is suggested to the inexperienced male he may have visions is sent in, enough of the bill will be in of a young woman with human qualities whose feelings will be touched by sufferthe safety of the Treasury and the pub-lie service. The remaining fragments that sort of sentimental thing. Only observant and inexperienced wives know how sentimental the most practical of men-even a bank president-may be after business hours. When the male patient finds himself in the hands of a self-con tained and unimpresionable young wo man, as exact and methodical and unsym nathetic as a machine and as dead to h personality as a wooden indian, he is dis-posed to be irritable. However efficient she may be, there are circumstances in which the trained nurse may be as pressive as was the red-nosed, fat woman nurse who preceded her.-Philadel phia Record.

AVON'S BARD ON BARBERS.

Lines Showing Kis Knowledge of the Tonsorial Art.

In considering the theory that Shakespeare was a barber it must be remembered that his father was a wool comber. This is a strong point, as the two professions seem to be cognate. Furthermore, among the innumerable ways of orthography of the period they are simply Shakebeard, a descriptive appellation that needs no comment. It points as directly

You must not think That we are made of stuff so flat and dull That we can let our beard be shook

The attention of supporters of the Bacon cipher cult is respectively called to this

"mask." Although no barber appears in the great throng of personages, high and low, wise and foolish, who come upon Shakespeare's stage, there is no lack of tonsorial lingo, "I must to the barber, monsieur," says Bully Bottom, "for methinks I am marvelously hairy about the face;" shaved once, and "lost many a hair." Mare Antony was a great patron of the shop and a stickler for a close shave. 'being barbered ten times o'er" upon one occasion, when he called upon Cleopatra. In "Coriolanus" Marcius exclaims with professional ardor, "O, let me clip ye," whereat one is reminded of Petruchio's, 'Here's snip and nip and cut and slit and

There must have been snampooing too, in Will Shakespeare's shop, else why did lago say, "I have rubbed this young quat almost to the sense!" Hamlet's "Ay, there's the rub," expressed his satisfaction in the southing process, and as the narber hastened his "knotted and combined locks to part," maybap he fell asleep, "perchance to dream," under the soporific touch of tonsorfal digits.

Lady barbers were not unknown to Shakespeare, who knew everything. When Pandarus saw Helen of Troy examining the fifty-two hairs which composed the sparse beard of Troilus he could not 'choose but laugh to think how she choose out mugh to think how she tickled his chin with her marvelous white hand." And did not the Shrew intimate to Hortensio that she might "comb his noddle with a three-legged stool?"—a proceeding weil calculated to make each particular hair stand on end.

Finally, Shakespeare knew all the reriminy, Shakespeare knew all the requirements of a first-class shop. "Have
napkins about you" is the advice in "Macheth," and Grumio's injunction is, "Letthe heads be sleekly combed and the
blue coats brushed." Every harber has
an "oily palm," of course, and, like Richard III, is often "at charges for a looking glass." Unlike Mercutio, he will not

ing, and in some way had lost it by its dropping out of his pocket. When he had finished plowing he missed the money, and having searched the plowed ing glass." Unlike Mercutlo, he will not "quarrel with a man that hath a hair more or a hair less in his beard," and as for his customers, he can truly say with Maria in "Twelfth Night," "I have them at my fingers' ends."—Kansas City Journal.

mens) has, as you will see, the whole Various Breeds and Colors.

When Properly Trained They Offer an Endless Source of Amusement-A Fancier Tells What He Knows

"That dainty, if hitherto despised, little animal, the mouse, is becoming a fashionable pet," sald a well-known dealer in animals and birds in this city a few days ago. "It certainly has needshe picked up a small pasteboard box ed a little more than the usual amount of common courage to overcome an inborn repulsion to the small pets, but once the trail of the long, snaky tail black powder Mrs. Brown was soon to cold feet on the palm makes no impresexamine to find out whether it was sion on the nerves, other than that of worth one dollar or one thousand, or delight, and the delicate softness of the perhaps more. In the first place, the fur impresses one rather as a vitalized

"In point of age mice are desirable who would take it for a square meal, or is a patriarch and does not end his days anything else, no matter what its orgi- a victim to the hundred and one ills pet dog or cat. Add to this the fact "Bills in all sorts and descriptions of that they are no trouble to keep, are mutilation come to the United States of cleanly habits, are cheaply fed, and Treasury," concluded Mrs. Brown, "We are an endless source of amusement if get a mass of money which has been trained to perform queer antics, and chewed by dogs or torn into the min- many will be inclined to overcome their utest fragments by insane people, and prejudices in favor of another inmate

"Their sphere of usefulness, indeed, its original value, it is redeemed as if it is limited. If you want a singing mouse were something of the greatest value. he must, first of all, develop asthma, Sometimes the border alone, which may and you must choose a mouse, too, for be detected, will be sufficient to deter- the purpose of song who has received a mine the original value of the bill. Bills musical education from his earliest of certain values have certain designs | years, or rather days, the rule to be obwhich bills of other denominations have served being, no asthma, no song. In a not. It is, therefore, by virtue of the natural state the mouse will be of use recognition of these various designs, in disposing of scraps of food, bits of whether on the border or elsewhere, meat, bacon, etc., but petted and caged, that we can know the amount of the he must be looked after and given the simplest of dlets, canary seed, dry "So much burned money has come to bread soaked in milk, oats, and bran us, together with affidavits giving ac- forming the daily meal which should be count of the burning, that I marvel why given regularly, while in coid weather so many people will put paper money a little chopped suct or well-broiled where there is a fire. They hide it in meat will help him through the winter. the oven, in the stovepipe, and almost If these directions are carefully followeverywhere about a stove except in the ed and the feeding tins are kept well scalded and the cages constantly cleaned out, the objectionable smell usually associated with mice will be gotten rid

"If you want to train your mice to do tricks, or even if you don't want to scare them to death, avoid indiscriminate opening of the sleeping quarters, and pushing them out or poking them about. This will utterly spoil them and render it impossible to overcome their fright sufficiently to train them in tricks. People rarely realize the relative difference in size between the human and the small creatures, and speak thunderous to such mites, or handle them as though they were made of india-rubber. The result very often is death from extreme fright or internal injuries received through roughness of touch. It is well to remember that the nest should be shared with a companion, as in that case all their affection and intelligence comes to the surface, and they then are so much easier train-

"For learning, the pure albino is easlest taught; but a dash of black by way of marking will get you a more sensitized animal, which, when it is once broken in to climb flagstaffs, etc., will take to tricks with the ease and grace of a finished comedian. The trouble, however, with obdurate pupils lies rather with the teacher than the animal. As a breed the fancy mouse is both intelligent and thoughtful, and his memory abnormal.

"This species, by the by," said the dealer, referring to a cage in his establishment, "is smaller than the general run of fancy mice. It is called the waltzing mouse,' and seems to be of a nore delicate build and constitution than all others, probably from inbreeding, as the refinement of this mouse is unmistakable. Its habit of waitzing is most curious; it always happens when the cage is brought suddenly in the bright light after being in the darkness, or when the mouse suddenly rushes out of its dark nest into the light. The little fellow rushes round in giddy circles for quite a minute, with its snout point-ing to a centre, when the action is reversed, and the circles are completed have a peculiar significance. For it is in the opposite direction. Then, slowly recovering itself, it goes about as other mice do, apparently unaffected by its strange freak. It is usually supposed to be caused by a parasite in the brain, but it is more probable that the smaller brain is not properly developed, as the tendency is passed on to every fresh generation. Very much the same thing happens to human beings. Instance man standing on the brink of an overhanging rock high up a mountainside and looking for the first time into immeasurable depths straight underneath him; the brain, through the sight, cannot accommodate itself at once to look ing downward such a depth and gets beyond itself and upset, as it were, with the result that the man feels giddy, and twisting around in a circle falls over. With practice day by day the brain ultimately accommodates itself to looking downward, and the feeling of giddines wears off. Much the same thing happens to good shots shooting down into

valleys for the first time. "In the case of the waltzing mouse the sudden change from darkness to light is analogous in this way-that the smaller brain, which is practically the nerve centre, being undeveloped, is not sufficiently receptive to the sudden change from darkness to light; hence the giddiness until the brain becomes strong enough to accommodate itself to the altered circumstances of the strong light. The giddiness, which has become characteristic of a type, consequently will never be cured until the smaller brain is developed by breeding out into stronger types, and the brain of this mouse advanced to its proper proportions. This result it is not to the interest of the fancier to bring about, as the waltzing mouse would then be extinct.

"Another curiosity in the mouse line which promises to become popular is

of its back covered with little spikes, giving it a very curious appearance. It s as lively as a squirrel; in the dark its eyes distand enormously and it rushes about prick-eared like a kitten, apparently at nothing. It lives and

corn. It is of the fancy mice proper, however, in which most fanciers take About Them-Special Diet Required | an interest-the many varieties of selfcolors, 'broken colors,' 'even colors, and so-called 'Dutch marked' colors. If you have not met him you should "The self-colors include sables, oranges, albinos, blacks, creams, chocois necessary. a white ground, following the Dutch teresting thing about him. You think he survives infanthood gets more breathing

lates, silvers, blues, etc. Broken colors depend upon a patching of color upon white ground. Even colors depend for their type upon even marking upon made to breed tortoise-shell, but it is found very difficult. Among beautiful place where the frog was sitting, and of time. and, to fanciers, well-known varieties of fancy mice, I would instance our own white-footed mice, the Egyptian ger-Hamsters, the voles, and the exquisite that was his parasol quivers in the breeze be so many men, which, in this age of at present, I believe, confined to private curve is arched from the bank to the crowded fields and factories, would be a collections. Mouse clubs, of which the British Mouse Club is a model, are ed as the daintiest of pets."

THE SIZE OF SOLDIERS.

Weighs.

The untrained big man will beat the intrained little man at fisticuffs or in a wrestling match, but in trained armies weight tells for very little. So long as their armies were recruited from the cities and villages of Italy, the smalllimbed Romans defeated the large-limbed Germans in almost every encounter, and his, although the men of the forest were nunters, lived in the open air, and ate, t is always assumed, quantities of meat. The wiry little Roman who took blows from a vine stock from his own officer must have been one of the best soldiers enlisted the big barbarians in scores of housands that her standards went back in battle. The slight and pallid Saracen drove the picked soldiers of Europe out of Palestine. If armor is any test, the neroes of the Middle Ages were comparatively little men. Of the men who fought at Jena, the Frenchmen were probably by 10 per cent the smaller, yet German, Pomeranian, and Pole alike receded before their charge.

There are probably no such men in the world as are to be found in our Sikh egiments, their average being nearly two inches higher than our own; yet Englishmen defeated them at Sobraon, and if they revolted our officers would lead the under-sized Ghoorkas against them with perfect confidence. That the Japanese 'dwarfs' defeated the Chinese may be accounted nothing; but experienced officers who have watched the former in ac-Russians, an opinion which is shared by the Sikhs, who have observed both, which s the more remarkable because the Sikh has to overcome an instinctive feeling about the European. Our own "light" regiments-e. g., the Rifle Brigaderegiments in the service; nor is there home. any regiment in the world that would not average low stature has frequently been

commented on, The truth is that weight and height have almost as little to do with fitness for soldiering as with fitness for command. The man who can walk thirty miles a day nerve, make an excellent soldier. A regiment of Lord Robertses would not be last n the field, though if they were badly fed, they would appear to most well-fed. citizens a regiment of "starvelings." Height or the want of it does not interfere with shooting. It arises, we suppose, from some instinct of selection that our sailors, who will face any troops, are seliom exceptionally tall. And little men who, as their riding-master informed us, will fall any number of times and cure nothing about it, are capable of being very soon licked into effective cavalry. The allusion about the courage and en-

furance of citizens as compared with countrymen is equally without foundation. Lad for lad, the city waif is as well fed as the country laborer's son, though his food leaves him with a tendency to pallor instead of a tendency to ruddiness. He is as much "out" as his rival, though it is in the street instead of the lane; and, though bad air seems to stunt his growth, it does not destroy his health, as witness all statistics of city mortality, if children under three are excluded. As for his courage, go and hit a young London costermonger, perhaps of all the families of man the one readlest for a fight. The earlier armies of the Roman republic were drawn from Rome itself—that is, from southern shows to which Rathral from southern slums, to which Bethnal Green is a sanitarium.—London Spectator.

MINES WORKED BY WOMEN. Primitive Methods Used in West

Africa. A French Consul, says "Mining and Me-

tallurgy," in a re ent report, gives an nteresting description of the crude methods of placer mining used in the French colony of Bambuk, in West Africa. The work is done almost entirely by the naive women of the colony.

The women are provided, for the performance of this work, with a certain number of calabashes filled with goldsearing earth, generally two or three at a time, a large calabash filled with water and a shell similar to that of a mollusk. They usually work in an erect position, the washing of two calabashes requiring about ten or twelve minutes. Taking a calabash about two-thirds

full of earth, the gold-washer fills the emaining space with water and agitates he mixture vigorously with one hand, renoving such pebbles as may be encountered. The calabash is then filled up with water and the mixture is churned as butter is churned, the gravel being removed and thrown away from time to time and water being added until the receptacle emains about one-third full of a very thin mud. She then takes the calabash between the palms of her hands and imparts to it an oscillating motion in order o precipitate the metal, and the washng water is then poured off. More water s then added in small quantities and the colary motion continued until the bottom ine sand mixed with a black powder of fear. sesqui-oxide of iron. The washer then turns the contents with a quick movement nto a little calabash and commences the operation again with a new lot of

When the portion of the earth assigned to the woman has all been treated hus, she takes up the little calabash and, if necessary, clarifies the water and reces it to a minimum quantity, causing the sand which is le't behind to collect on the sides of the vessel, removing all that is possible with the finger, and forcthat is possible with the finger, and forcing the residue to a nearly flat part of the calabash. It is then collected in a shell, which, when passed over a gentle fire, contains nothing after operation except a mixture in which the gold is distinguishable from the black ferruginous powder by its color. The impurities are separated by agitating the shell and blowing gently upon it, or even with the aid of the fingers, and the gold is then sealed up in the horn of an antelope.

All these operations are performed with a quickness and skill that are marvelous, and a keen attention which reduces the loss, if there be any, to a minimum.—
Philadelphia Record.

THE OLDEST GREENBACKER

A Constant and Athletic Dweller of the Marshes.

thrives on nuts, carrots, dates, and Interesting Points Concerning the

> become acquainted at the earliest opportunity. The man who has not met Jim Frog does not know what it is to enjoy rest in the true sense of the word, and ahead. The element consumed is different, what it is to get a move on when motion

rabbit marking. The attempt is being is too slow to wink, when suddenly you space in the parent home and more of see a long green st cak with a starting the good things in the great distribution that streak is your "horrible example" It would be a wise thing for more pe of laziness with steam up. The frog is a ple to observe the frog. His legs are lescompound condensing engine; he uses his sons, and his activity is inspiration. If steam over and over again, and that is more men were frogs there would be not bil, the Barbary mouse, the Jerboos, the why he is seldom exhausted. The leaf so many sluggards, and there would not Norwegian lemmings, all of which are stirred by his going, a graceful emerald crowded professions, crowded arts, and bosom of the pond that is his home, and consummation devotedly wished for by a ripple of rings, each greater than the many. Here again is a lesson from the other, tells the tale of his sinking into frog. When his hole runs dry, when his starting up in England and this coun- the wet. His pointed head tips close to pond is overstocked and overstirred is its try, and the prospects are that fancy the bottom of the pond. He stirs the mud bottom mud, he leaps upon the bank, cuts mice will soon be universally regard- of the pond bottom. He routs a heap of across the greensward, and dives into little pebbles, crowding into them, and other waters, where are fewer frogs and out again and under a loop of drowned sedgegrass. But he is out again!

A frog does not rely so much upon his What the Man Knows vs. What He brain, as apon his legs, for his preservation. He is like some soldiers. His atti- to "get in the swim." You, there-support tude, when faced by danger, is the avert- of a corner building, unbidden prop of a ed cheek. Not that he wants a slap, but shaded alley-get out of the old mud, he waits not upon the order of his going, when the enemy gives him the impression your opportunity, get in the swim!-Philathat a look in the eye means combat to the death.

Jim Frog has noble thighs. They are wound about with fine white muscles, so rapid, strong, agile, and dexterous that they make the legs of a bicycle rider look liks stumps in a back field when brought into comparison. So capable of action are these muscles that they do not cease their motion when death overtakes Jim Frog. who ever lived. It was after Rome had They are like some people, who live after

they are dead. You can freshen the memory of a departed friend by shedding a few salt tears Its name on account of its habit of apover his grave. You can freshen the motion of a dead Jim Frog by sprinkling a little salt over his white muscles. If salt be placed on the skinned legs of a frog after it has been killed, in a short while the muscles begin to twitch and contract and expand, as if bidden by some witching ower. Is this death, telling of itself? Is this the soul, squirming in the nether of an inferior animal after-world? Is this man's own blind eyes, moved by the ichor of spring? Or nervous with the conscience of the frog's murder?

Jim Frog is green. Like all things that have a freshness about them which makes them seem like so many cabbage leaves to the eye that has wandered far into the mystery of the world, this verdure of the frog is deceptive. It is upon his back, but tion believe that they would beat the not in his brain or his heart. If green signifies spring, then the frog has it in his legs. But his legs are his helpers and the staff of his life, so that spring in the frog is life to him. The frog is green not from choice, but because nature knew his habits and has set him in his little world with which, because they are "light," are tol- a care for harmony, fike furniture is erant of "weeds," are smong the best matched with wall paper in a modern

The frog was not given claws to rend instead he was given the protection of th flag by the river rim, on the little pebblefortress of the brook-jetty or in the sedge of the shrinking pond. Jim Frog is hidden unconsciously, and all the time.

The frog never lies on his back. He and carry his ride easily will, if he has never shows his belly. Therefore nature did not paint his belly green. She did not seem willing to put one more daub on Jim Frog than was needed in his decoration for deceptive purposes alone. She matched his back with the grass and implanted in his heart the good sense to keep his waistband hidden away that the delicate whiteness might not betray him. Jim Frog Is the early bird of the river sedge and the pend. Two days of April sunshine bring him from the mud of his hibernation. The April sunshine may come in March-its magic is as true to the frog.

With head half raised from the surface of the pond he peers about, and ever and mon bursts forth in guttural resonance. leep-toned and deceptive, his "Yump-in Y-u-r-r!" The last note always sounds to me like a song started, then cut off by some sad memory of a mother-frog caught in the mud of a dry hole, or a aby-frog unhatched from the glassy egg state, or undeveloped beyond the tailless and undignified nothingness of a tadpole The wanderer who tramps ankle deep in the marsh meadow these afternoons or venings, and who knows not the wily ways of Jim Frog, will think he sees only few stones sticking up from the water, or the stumps of water grasses. These are, instead, the high-bulging eyes of Jim Frog. So silently will they withdraw from from the surface on the approach of the stranger that he will not notice the change of scene before him, unless he is specially keen of sight. As long as he emains within view of the frogs, watchng him from the bottom of the pond, no more heads will be raised, but let him etire for a moment and the frog frolic will begin anew, and then there will be ecurrent croaking.

The pond will be cut with circles and from beneath the bulging eyes there will be a quick bloating, and the issue of that "Yump-in-Y-u-r-r!" The bigger the from the deeper his note. A Jim Frog that weighs as much as a pound or more which is big enough for the small boys to christen him "Bull Frog," has a voice that makes his sudden and sullen call seem to come up from the depths of a secret artesian well, drilled a mile below the bottom of the pond.

When Jim Frog becomes very old and very fat, like a man with a wadding of bank notes wrapped about his ribs, he is not a creature of much interest, from an anatomical point of view. He lacks symmetry. He lacks agility. He lacks grace and beauty. He still has his green-back like the banker, but the white belly buiges out in a betraying manner. It smacks of too much indulgence. A frog with a dot ble chin does not lose his power of voice. Neither does a man with a triple waistband, but the service at his command changes from the service of a subject that serves to please because of admiration to the service of the subject that of the calabash contains nothing but a strives to satisfy because of reward or

Of course, Jim Frog has a wife, bu the nuptial knot has never been very securely tied. There is no love-making espite all the pictures of Mr. Frog an Mrs. Frog out walking with a toadstoover them for a sunshade, and the little froglets hopping along beside them. This always appealed to me as a sorrowful example of "what might have been," be cause it is not true, I never saw frog stand on his hind legs, though think he might, from efforts I have seen him make while trying to crawl over ; log or stone.

Then, too, the little frogs never know who their mothers or fathers are. It must be a great disadvantage to them to arrive at manhood and womanhood without a single resource by which they can fix their identity.

If a man is like his mother and knows know what he himself is like?

not who is his mother, how is he to Mother Frog hangs up a bunch of quivering globules on a twig under the water,

or fastens them to a swaying grass. In these gelatine globules are the tipy black A MOUNTAIN EXPERIENCE eggs. Then Mr. Frog visits this strange

bouquet of eggs with paternal instinct, they are fertilized and soon begin to grow blacker and larger. It is a careless method of propagation, but the frogs have proven that it is successful. There are always plenty of frogs to bear evidence to the efficiency of this method.

Frog-His Habits of Living and His beyond the tadpole epoch. In either case Happy Disposition - What Gives it is a blessing for mankind or for frog-Him His Brilliancy of Color. kind. The tadpole who cannot outgrow his tall would never make a worthy frog; the child who cannot outgrow his babyhood would never make a true man. The passing of those that drop by the wayside gives room for those that are forging but the theory is parallel. The frog which thrives gets more water in the pond or The motion of Jim Frog is the most in- mud in its bottom, and the baby that

more opportunities.

From the frog's point of view this is nothing more than jumping at an opportunity. Or going at things head-first make tracks across the country, jump at delphia Record.

HABITS OF THE NIGHTHAWK. Well-Known Bird Whose Methods

Belie Its Name. The night hawk is a bird often seen and

yet a bird of which little is commonly known. Its name would lead one to think that it is a night bird, but this is wrong, as it does not roam about during the night at all. Like the familiar song birds of the woods it rests at night. It received pearing only during the late afternoon or on cloudy days. A proper name for this bird would be "a twilight bird," as it can not be said to belong to either night or

If you have ever lived on a farm you will recall hearing on some still, hot evening, a whirring, long-drawn out note, high above your head, and on looking up you will remember how surprised you were to behold a small bird with big wings falling straight toward the earth and then how much more surprised you were when the bird suddenly turned in a graceful upward curve and went straight back again into the darkness above. That was the night hawk on a hunt for its supper. After that first meeting you will remember how familiar it grew to you and yet how little you ever learned of its habits of liv-

These birds winter just south of the United States. They arrive in Indiana with the heading of the oat and wheat fend myself. I opened the one siender fields and stay until September. Sometimes they summer as far north as the Hudson Bay and winter as far south as Brazil. They travel from one place to another as a rule in scattered flocks. To strength. My faith, somehow, was pinsee these birds traveling is a sight not ned upon a club. I felt I could put up any regiment in the world that would not his foe, nor teeth to tear out his heart; soon forgotten. They will follow a river some kind of a fight with a club, but my or stream for miles and seem to use these natural highways as their guide from one

nome to another.

A hunt for the nest of this bird is a nopeless task in some localities of our hopeless task in some localities of our State, as they do not always breed. They live in the field, and it is there you may expect to find the nest if one is to be found. It will be built on the ground, and there will not be a straw or stick or cord in the home. It will be just a hole in the ground, for this bird is, above all things, lazy, and if there is any material other than the bare earth near the home it will be because the wind blew it there or because it grew there. You will find or because it grew there. You will find two eggs of a dirty color in the nest, providing some snake or gopher has not made away with them. Exposed as these eggs are, it is a wonder the bird does not disappear from the face of the earth. Nearly every animal that lives eats eggs.

The night heark lives almost antirely on The night hawk lives almost entirely on sugs, bees, and insects. They are so swift in their action that they have little difficulty in securing a square meal every hour they hunt. They are so marked that they can easily secure their prey. They are dark-just a twilight color-under-neath, and the real distance they are from you is a matter of doubt. They have wishbone-shaped white mark on the roat by which they can always be

The noise made by this bird when descending is caused by its wings in contact with the air. Its throat cry is a squak and unpleasant to the ear. The bird is very attractive when it flies about in the does it have over its power of flight that it can drop toward the ground with light-ning rapidity and when scarcely two feet sail again in graceful circles toward the sky.—The Indianapolis News.

FRENCH TICKET SPECULATION. Cheaper on the Sidewalk Than at the Box Office.

New Yorkers accustomed to the tyranny of the ticket speculators are naturally stonished when informed that there once lived a man who sold theatre tickets cheaper on the sidewalk than they could be bought inside the theatre, and that he made a fortune by his singular industry. Naturally he did not live in this city, nor, ndeed, in the United States. He died the other day where he had lived, in Paris, and with the departure of old "Cheaper on the Outside," as he was commonly called, a well-known figure of boulevard life disappeared.

This was Paul Planchet, one of Paris' rincipal chefs de claque, who left behind him a fortune of more than \$200,000. The compensation of the leader of the hired applauders in a Paris theatre is of two kinds. He receives from certain actors who want to be sure of a round of applause at their entrance and exit a sixed weekly sum. He also receives from the management a certain number of tickets, with which he pays his cohorts nights, and neighboring farmers had had

receipts, a regular allowance of

rollts in the event of success were great wush to compensate him for the risk

rector.

It is said that only four plays in the past decade have been able to attract the public at the regular theatre rates. These were "Mme. Sans Gene." "Cyrano de Bergerac." "Zaza," and "L'Aiglon."— of giving me all the fight I could ask for for my life." de Bergerac,"
New York Sun.

A Moonlight Stroll and Its Unpleasant Interruption.

How an Adirondack Lion Was Kept in Front of Its Intended Victim for a Mile Along a Deserted Road, The End of a Dangerous Brute.

"Vice President Roosevelt may go out of his way to meet the mountain lion if he wants to," said a Government clerk at the Corcoran a few days ago. "There are people constantly hunting for trouble who rarely fall to find it, but I am not one of them. I am not looking for trouble, and after the experience with a mountain lion I had recently I am more than ever willing to let the animal go his way in peace as long as he will grant me the same privilege.

"About a month ago I visited a friend of mine in the Adirondack Mountains, where he had gone for his health. He had been sent there by his family physician on account of some lung trouble. He had taken up his quarters at a farm house in a beautiful little valley among the mountains, where he was getting as much comfort and enjoyment as a consumptive can under the circumstances. We had known each other since boyhood and, feeling the need of a little recreation, I took a run up there to spend a week or so with my friend. It was still sharp and cool there, for the season is not as far advanced in the Adirondack region as it is here in Washington, but the weather was much more enjoyable than it is here. "One evening just after dinner I con-

cluded I would take a short stroll along the mountain road while I enjoyed my eigar. Twilight is very short in this mountain region, and it was not long before darkness settled down upon me and I found I and strayed several miles away from the farm house. The moon was by this time rising full and large in the eastern horizon, and I felt contented and was enjoying my walk in the crisp, cool air immensely. The moon soon rose to a height which lighted the surrounding landscape sufficiently to enable me to seen the roadway for a dozen yards ahead, except where the black shadow patches of intercepting pines stretched across the path. I do not believe I was more than a mile from the house when I was startled by a round which made my blood almost freeze in my veins, and broke upon the deathlike stillness of the mountain night in a thousand weird echoes. It was a scream, a cry-some thing human and something diabolical all in one. For a moment I stood still. I could not move a muscle, and to say that I was frightened does not begin to describe my sensations. I knew by instinct that the noise I had heard was the savage ery of a mountain panther or 'painter,' as the north woodsmen call them, and that the beast had seen me and was on my trail. I had no weapon with which I could defend myself but a small pocket knife, which would only have been of service at close range, and then the chances of its doing any harm to the creature was extremely remote, especially in the hands of a man as unskilled in such warfare as I.

"It was necessary to do something, and that at once. I searched around me for a club of some kind, with which to deblade of my knife and held the thing between my teeth. Every stick I picked up was decayed and broke in pieces every time I struck it on the ground to test its fright rapidly turned to terror as soon as I realized that nothing but dead tree

branches was to be had. "Then I thought of stones. There were plenty of them in the road and I filled my pockets full of them, and threw them ahead of me into the woods on each side of the road. My mind was working like a whirlwind, my heart beating faster and faster every minute, until I began to fairly pant for breath

"I thought of our old yellow cat at If then I could keep the panther in front of me, and not let him get behind. I might be able to frighten him off. I yelled continuously, and made all the noise and racket I could. Cats do not like noise Their methods of attack are stealthy and

in silence. "Every now and then, I could see the beast leaping across the road from one side to the other. As his tawny form reached through the air in the moonlight it seemed to my terror-stricken imagination as if he stretched clear across the roadway like a continuous streak of yelair, as its curvings are as smooth and graceful as if they had been planned and low light. Fortunately for me I kept him rehearsed for weeks. Such perfect centrol in front of me. If the brute had succeeded in getting to the rear of me, my courage, what little I had left, would have above the surface reverse its action and deserted me entirely, and I would have been paralyzed with helpless terror.

"Whenever I reached a patch of black shadow my terror increased and my legs almost seemed to weigh a ton, while my feet seemed to be glued to the ground. I wanted to run through the darkness, but I could not. How I got through that last mile, with that brute near me; how every sound added fresh fuel to my terror, was a long drawn out nightmare which to my dying day I will never forget. It makes me feel old to think of it.

"When at last I reached the farm house I sank helpiess upon the floor and became semi-conscious, I was aroused by my friend shaking me and pouring water on my face. It was some minutes before I was able to sit up and tell of my experience. I felt I was entitled to some sort of sympathy, but instead I was scored for my folly in going into the woods alone at night without a gun or weapon of any kind. This was just the sort of treatment I needed, for I became a little piqued at the slurs cast upon my common sense, and I recovered shortly my equanimity under the stress of the verbal flogging I was getting.

disposes of as he may desire.

But his supply of tickets is not limited this source. The French dramatists this not in addition to a certain percentage to a dispose lambs and young pigs stolen by the brute. A hunting party was organized the next day, of which I was not a memof the receipts, a regular allowance of tokers. It was originally supposed that these went to the author for the use of his friends; but nowadays they are sold to the leaders of the chaques, who in turn so full of kindly interest as did that simber, and started at daylight to run the ell them at prices determined by the plecases the second of the plecases the second dat less than box office of such penceful security could be so close than the second dat less than box office of such penceful security could be so close than the second data less than box office of such penceful security could be so close than the second data and the second data are sold at less than box office. to a locality fraught with such heart-In this way Planchet accumulated his pounding terror as those woods just this way Planchet accumulated his pounding terrer as those woods just me. One could nearly always get across the way. I resolved to leave the mount ins by the first train and see by from him tickets at less than the regular rate. Planchet also operated on a larger scale at times. He was a speculator in tickets on a wholesale basis. When a theatre was going to mount a new piay and the manager needed money Planchet would buy in advance and pay for a block of several thousand scats to be redeemed by the management at a small rebate in case he could not sell them. He, of course, lost in case of failure, but his partly in the event of success were great regards in the event of success were great were coming down the road with somemount due by the first train, and get back thing hanging from the centre of a pole which rested at either end on the shoulit was in this way that so many of the ders of two men. It was the brute of the It was in this way that so many of the linearre managers of Paris became debtors to their chaque leaders that they had to take them into partnership, and to this necessity is attributed in a measure the survival of the chaque in the face of so much abuse. The men of whom Planchet was the most noted example have money always, but that is by no means the invariable condition of the Paris theatrical director.

It was the brute of the night before. It was the pole run through them. They had to grave the ware black, with a tawny body fading to a dirty white underneath his believed the night before. It was the pole run through them. They had a good, long look at him. It is night before. belly. The men had shot him just beit is said that only four plays in the tween the eyes and killed him instantly.